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United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Report of the Secretary-General**

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* A/56/50.

** The present report is being submitted on 12 July 2001 so as to include as much updated information as possible.

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I. Introduction

A. Submission of the present report

1. The present annual report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly, drafted 28 June 2001, was prepared in accordance with the arrangements approved by the Assembly in its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981 by which it created the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (hereinafter referred to as "the Fund"). This report presents mainly the recommendations adopted by the Fund's Board of Trustees (hereinafter "the Board") at its twentieth session (Geneva, 18 May-1 June 2001), which were approved on 15 June by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (hereinafter "the High Commissioner").

B. Mandate of the Fund

2. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/151, adopted 16 December 1981, the Fund receives voluntary contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals which it distributes through established channels of assistance, as humanitarian, legal and financial aid to torture victims and their relatives. In accordance with the practice established by the Board of Trustees beginning in 1982, the Fund provides grants to non-governmental organizations which submit projects involving medical, psychological, social, economic, legal, humanitarian or other forms of assistance to the victims of torture and their relatives. If sufficient money is available, the Board also recommends that it fund projects under which health-care professionals or other professionals who provide assistance to torture victims receive training or hold seminars or conferences.

C. Board of Trustees of the Fund

3. The Secretary-General administers the Fund through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (hereinafter "the Office of the High Commissioner") with the advice of the Fund's Board of Trustees (see A/48/520, paras. 5-9 and annexes III-VI, on the terms of reference of the Board). The Chairman of the Board is Mr. Jaap Walkate and the other members are Mr. Ribot Hatano, Ms. Elizabeth Odio-Benito, Mr. Ivan Tosevski and Mr. Amos Wako.

D. Grant approval cycle

4. A brief description of the grant approval cycle will explain how the Fund operates. Grant requests should be submitted each year by 30 November for consideration by the Fund secretariat, which decides whether they are admissible under the Fund's guidelines. Admissible grant requests are reviewed by the Board at its annual session in May. The Board's recommendations are examined by the Fund secretariat to ensure that they are in compliance with United Nations rules, then submitted for approval on behalf of the Secretary-General to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. In July all the applicants are informed in writing of the decisions affecting them. Grants are paid out by the United Nations Office at Geneva, usually in August. The recipients must submit by 31 December

satisfactory narrative and financial reports on the use of the grants. In the absence of a final report by 31 December, a request is made for an interim report on that date and the final report must be received by the following 15 February. No new grant requests can be considered as long as previous narrative and financial reports are still due.

E. Admissibility criteria

5. The project admissibility criteria are defined in the Fund's guidelines, which are sent to all applicants. They are revised each year by the Board and the Fund secretariat. The main criteria are those formulated by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/151 (see para. 2).

II. Twentieth session of the Board of Trustees of the Fund

A. Organization of the work of the Board

6. During its twentieth session, held from 18 May to 1 June 2001, for the first time at the Palais Wilson in Geneva, the headquarters of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Board held 20 private meetings.

7. During these meetings, the Board considered analyses prepared by its secretariat of more than 200 projects. These analyses dealt mainly with the use of the funds granted in previous years and with new grant applications received for projects to be funded in 2001. On the basis of these documents, the Board adopted recommendations concerning each project submitted to it.

8. As is customary, the members of the Board held a meeting on 1 June with Mary Robinson, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and informed her of the financial situation of the Fund and their preliminary recommendations.

9. In accordance with established practice, the Board held a meeting with the Chairman of the Committee against Torture (see also chap. E below) and also held private hearings of representatives of non-governmental organizations which had submitted a funding request.

B. Financial situation of the Fund

10. In accordance with the United Nations rules governing voluntary contribution funds for humanitarian purposes, 15 per cent of estimated annual expenditures must be earmarked as a reserve for the following year, in the event that the amount of contributions received is insufficient, and 13 per cent is the rate set for programme support costs. After reserve and support costs were deducted from the total contributions received in time for allocation, and after adding to the new voluntary contributions paid since the nineteenth session the 15 per cent left over from the previous year, the amount available on 18 May 2001 for allocation to new grants came to a little over US$ 8 million (an increase of US$ 1 million as compared with 2000; see table 2 below).

11. Table 1 below shows contributions received in time for allocation at the twentieth session of the Board. Only contributions received between 15 May 2000, the first day of the nineteenth session of the Board, and 17 May 2001, the day before the beginning of the twentieth session, have been taken into account, according to the information available to the Office of the High Commissioner.

12. It should be noted that most regular donors and other donors to the Fund responded well to the appeals from the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights, the High Commissioner and the Board and to the joint declaration of 26 June 2000, which urged them to make advance contributions, preferably by 1 March 2001, to be duly recorded by the Treasurer of the United Nations and available by the time of the Board's twentieth session.

Table 1
Contributions received in time for allocation at the twentieth session

Donors	*Amount (in United States dollars)*	*Year for which the contribution was paid*	*Contribution number*
Algeria	5 000	2001	10
Andorra*	2 650	1999	6
"	8 300	2000	7
Argentina	7 000	2000	12
"	3 000	2000	13
Austria	40 000	2000	17
Belgium	70 277	2000	11
Cameroon	7 444	2001	4
Canada	17 151	2000	17
"	40 775	2001	18
Chile	10 000	2000	8
Cyprus	770	2000	12
"	2 767	2001	13
"	2 400	2001	14
Czech Republic	5 000	2000	5
Denmark	358 920	2001	19
Finland	147 809	2001	19
France	70 186	2001	23
Germany	121 510	2000	19
Holy See	1 000	2000	5
Iceland	4 650	2001	15
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	867	2001	1
Ireland	89 070	2001	16
Italy	110 519	1999	11
"	110 519	2000	12
Japan	60 000	2000	15
Liechtenstein	5 952	2001	13

Donors	*Amount (in United States dollars)*	*Year for which the contribution was paid*	*Contribution number*
Luxembourg	10 995	2001	17
Malta	1 500	2000	6
Monaco	10 000	2001	7
Netherlands	900 000	2000/2001	19 and 20
New Zealand	11 808	2000	14
Norway	110 327	2001	16
Philippines*	613	1999	5
Poland	10 000	2001	2
Republic of Korea	10 000	2000	6
Spain	37 400	2000	15
Sri Lanka	1 000	2000	9
Sweden	113 345	2000	14
Switzerland	46 512	2001	14
Tunisia	2 000	1999	9
"	1 881	2000	10
Turkey	5 000	2000	2
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	234 048	2001	14
United States of America	5 000 000	2001	21
United Nations staff in Geneva	13 397	1998	1
Mr. Daniel Prémont	120	2000	2
Mrs. Rita Maran	50	2001	12
International Commission of Jurists, Dutch section	2 819	2001	6

* Partial contribution for 1999.

C. Recommendations of the Board concerning grants

13. In accordance with the Board's established practice, the entire amount available for new grants was recommended for allocation. The US$ 8 million available were mostly allocated to projects throughout the world which provide medical, psychological, economic, social or legal assistance or other forms of direct humanitarian aid to victims of torture and members of their families. A few grants were given to training programmes for health-care professionals and others to improve their knowledge of specialized assistance to victims of torture, and for meetings of such professionals for purposes of exchanging experience in this field. In all, new grants for 2001 were allocated to 187 projects of assistance to victims of torture and members of their families in 70 countries around the world.

14. Having analysed the requests for financing for direct assistance projects and training or seminar projects, the Board recommended that some US$ 35,000 should be reserved for emergency grants that the secretariat might make if needed, on the

recommendation of the Chairman, before the Board's next annual session. This sum is additional to a balance of some US$ 140,000 which had remained unused since May 2000 (cf. A/55/178, para. 14). This reserve could be used before the Board's next session in May 2002 to respond to requests for assistance, particularly from victims of torture, for emergency care in areas where there is no project financed by the Fund, and for any organizations already financed by the Fund which might be experiencing financial difficulties. Those requests for urgent assistance will be dealt with in accordance with the relevant guidelines of the Fund already approved by the Secretary-General and the General Assembly (see A/50/512, chap. IV and A/48/520, annex I). The Board recommended that requests for financing in amounts up to US$ 20,000 should be examined by the Chairman and those for higher sums should be examined by the Chairman and two other members of the Board, including the member from the region concerned.

D. Fund-raising

1. Meeting with donors

15. The annual meeting in Geneva of Board members with the representatives of donor Governments took place on 31 May 2001 at the Palais des Nations. On that occasion, the Chairman of the Board thanked the regular donors to the Fund, numbering about 40. He expressed concern at the constant rise in requests for financing due to the ever-increasing demand for assistance from victims of torture. He therefore recommended that the regular donors should encourage other Governments belonging to their geographical groups to help the Fund by making an initial contribution.

2. The High Commissioner's reminder to States

16. The Board recommended that the High Commissioner should maintain her practice of sending a letter to States each September, to remind them to contribute regularly to the Fund prior to 1 March 2002. In her letter to the Chairman of the Fund, dated 15 June 2001, the High Commissioner agreed with that suggestion.

3. Presentation of the Board's financial needs before the Commission on Human Rights

17. The Board expressed its appreciation for the practice of the Commission on Human Rights of inviting a member of the Board to present the Fund's financial situation and financing needs, and to make an appeal for contributions during the session of the Commission in connection with the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Fund. The Board suggested that if possible, the General Assembly might do likewise.

4. Relations with the major donors in the area of assistance to victims of torture

18. The Board encourages regular visits and informal exchanges of information between the secretariat of the Fund and the major donors in the area of assistance to victims of torture, in particular, the European Commission. If possible, the secretariat of the Fund and the secretariat of the relevant directorate-general of the European Commission should meet in autumn 2001 in order to evaluate funding needs in the area of assistance to torture victims for the year 2002.

5. Dissemination of information about the Fund

19. The Board continued to encourage initiatives designed to procure further voluntary contributions and recommended that the secretariat should consider new fund-raising activities, in particular, through the production of written or audio-visual information materials on the Fund as recommended by the General Assembly (resolution 55/89 of 4 December 2000, para. 25).

E. Cooperation with other United Nations bodies dealing with the question of torture

20. On 18 May 2001, the first day of the session, the members of the Board met with the Chairman of the Committee against Torture to discuss the text of the joint declaration to be issued on 26 June 2001, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture (see section G below and Annex II).

21. The Board recommended that the Office of the High Commissioner should plan and hold its next session in May 2002 in order to permit a joint meeting to take place at which the Board, the Committee against Torture, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and the High Commissioner could exchange information on activities related to the question of torture and consider new joint action.

F. Cooperation with other United Nations system organizations

22. Throughout the intersessional period (May 2000-May 2001), the secretariat of the Fund continued to cooperate with the field presences of the Office of the High Commissioner and other United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in respect of conveying information from or to those responsible for projects financed by the Fund, evaluating projects in the field, or monitoring the use of grants allocated. The Board recommended that the High Commissioner, acting in her capacity as coordinator of human rights activities in the United Nations system, should, where necessary, request the cooperation of the directors of the field presences of the Office of the High Commissioner, the United Nations Resident Coordinators or those responsible for any other United Nations organization, fund or programme. Such cooperation would be especially useful for the payment of grants or the evaluation of projects financed by the Fund.

G. 26 June 2001, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

1. Adoption of the joint declaration

23. It may be recalled that the General Assembly, in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997, proclaimed 26 June as the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. In accordance with an initiative taken by the Board in May 1998, in order to commemorate the Day, the Board of the Fund, the Committee against Torture, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and the High Commissioner for Human Rights have adopted a

joint declaration addressed to the States and organizations concerned (see Annex II for the text adopted in June 2001).

2. Dissemination of the joint declaration

24. The Board recommended that the Secretary-General should disseminate the joint declaration as widely as possible, particularly to United Nations documentation centres and Resident Coordinators, sufficiently in advance so that it could be translated into national languages, read and distributed on 26 June 2001.

H. Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

25. The Board supports any initiative to ensure the widest possible distribution of the "Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment" (hereinafter referred to as "the Manual") among the relevant professional organizations (particularly for health professionals and police, customs and judicial officers) and its translation into local languages. The Board recommended that all organizations funded by the Fund should receive a copy of the Manual, which is to be published in the Professional Training Series of the Office of the High Commissioner.

I. Secretariat of the Fund and the Board

26. The Board supports the request, put forward by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights in their most recent resolutions on the question of torture (resolutions 55/89 and 2001/62, respectively), "to ensure the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture". Thus, the Board recommends that the secretariat of the Fund be adequately staffed and have at its disposal the supplies, equipment and services it requires to function properly. Such expenditures have no financial implications for the Office of the High Commissioner because they are charged to the programme support costs of the Fund, in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations of the United Nations. These needs are justified by the ever-increasing number of grant requests to be screened, grants approved and reports on the use of grants to be examined each year.

III. Preparations for the twenty-first session of the Board

A. Estimated needs for 2002

27. The total amount of assistance requested in 2001 ($11 million) was $1 million higher than in 2000. As shown in the following table, total grant requests have increased by at least $1 million per year over the past few years. Consequently, it can realistically be estimated that in 2002, requests for grants from the Fund will amount to $12 million.

Table 2
Comparison between amounts requested and grants awarded (1993-2001)

Year	*Requested (United States dollars)*	*Awarded (United States dollars)*	*Percentage awarded*	*Difference (United States dollars)*
2001	11 119 341 (+1 119 341)	8 009 842 (+1 009 842)	72	3 109 499
2000	10 000 000 (+1 748 140)	7 000 000 (+1 921 500)	70	3 000 000
1999	8 251 860 (+1 451 860)	5 078 500 (+868 500)	61	3 173 360
1998	6 800 000	4 210 000 (+1 173 946)	62	2 590 000
1997	6 800 000 (+1 181 355)	3 036 054 (+500 554)	45	3 763 946
1996	5 618 645	2 535 500	45	3 083 145
1995	5 827 645	2 719 680	47	3 107 965
1994	5 476 959	3 698 080 (+1 587 000)	67	1 778 879
1993	5 289 413	2 111 880	40	3 177 533

B. Contributions to the Fund

28. In the light of the foregoing, donors are encouraged to make their contributions to the Fund before 1 March 2002, as recommended in the most recent resolutions of the General Assembly (55/89 of 4 December 2000) and the Commission on Human Rights (2001/62 of 25 April 2001). Contributions to the Fund should be paid in advance in order to be duly recorded by the Treasurer of the United Nations. It is the Board's practice in recommending new grants to take into account at the first meeting of its annual session only contributions that have actually been paid and for which an official receipt has been issued. Payments not recorded before the first day of the Board's session are counted in the following year. Thus, the Algerian contribution of $5,000, recorded in New York on 21 June 2001, will be counted in the twenty-first session.

29. Most donors pay their voluntary contributions directly to the Fund, without pledging in advance. In fact, the Board does not take pledges into account. However, some governmental pledges were made to the Office of the High Commissioner or were recorded during the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, which is held in New York each year during the first week of November. Following is a list of outstanding pledges.

Table 3
Pledges outstanding as at 30 June 2001

Donors	*United States dollars*	*Local currency*	*Pledge date*	*Year*
Brazil	10 000		20 December 1994	1995
"	10 000		2 November 1995	1996
"	10 000		4 November 1997	1998
Cameroon*		CFAF 5 340	11 June 2001	2001
Chile	10 000		2 November 2000	2001
Italy	110 519	euros 120 000	5 July 2000	2001
Tunisia	1 393		2 November 2000	2001
Turkey	5 000		2 November 2000	2001
United Kingdom**	216 666	£130 000	2 February 1999	1999

* A cheque payable to the Treasurer of the United Nations was sent to the Office of the High Commissioner on 11 June 2001. The official Treasury receipt showing that the sum was available to the Fund had not been received as of the date of the report.

** The payment of £130,000 was deposited to the account of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). The Office of the High Commissioner has submitted a request for the sum to be transferred to the Fund. The transfer had not been confirmed as of the date of this report.

C. How to make a contribution to the Fund

30. Contributions to the Fund should be marked as follows: "*payee: United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, account CH*". Payments may be made: (a) by bank transfer to "United Nations Geneva General Fund" either in United States dollars to account 240-C-590-160.1, or in other currencies to account 240-C-590-160.0, c/o UBS AG, case postale 2770, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland, Swift address UBSWCHZH12A; (b) or by cheque payable to "United Nations" addressed to: Trésorerie, Nations Unies, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

31. Donors are requested to inform the secretariat of the Fund when a payment has been made (a copy of the bank transfer order or of the cheque would be appreciated) so as to facilitate record-keeping, preparation of an official letter of thanks and preparation of the Secretary-General's reports.

D. Dates of the twenty-first session

32. The Board recommended that its next session should be held from 13 to 27 May 2002, to coincide with the session of the Committee against Torture. The Board appreciated that at the meeting held on 1 June 2001, the High Commissioner had highlighted the Fund's activities, and it recommended that a meeting should be held again with the High Commissioner during the twenty-first session.

Annex I

List of organizations financed by the Fund in 2001[a]

Organization	*Place*
Abuelas de la Plaza de Mayo	Argentina
ACAT-Brazil	Brazil
ACAT-Mexico (Action of Christians for the Abolition of Torture)	Mexico
Advocates for Survivors of Trauma and Torture	United States
Africa War Victims Medical Concern	Uganda
African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims	Uganda
Amigos de los Sobrevivientes	United States
Appartenances	Switzerland
Armenian Medical Psychiatric Rehabilitation Centre	Armenia
Asian Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Network	India
Association pour la prévention de la torture	Switzerland/Chile
Association pour les victimes de la répression en exil	France
Associazione Centro Astalli	Italy
Balay Inco, Rehabilitation Centre	Philippines
Bangladesh Rehabilitation Centre for Trauma Victims	Bangladesh
BASMA	France
Bellevue Association	United States
Boston Medical Center	United States
Calgary Catholic Immigration Society	Canada
Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defence of Human Rights	Cambodia
Campaign for Good Governance	United Republic of Tanzania
Canadian Centre for Victims of Torture	Canada
CAPSDH-Ghana	Ghana
Caritas-Cologne	Germany

Organization	*Place*
Casa dei diritti sociali-FOCUS	Italy
Center for Justice and Accountability	United States
Center for Multicultural Human Services	United States
Center for Victims of Torture	United States
Centre Care for Torture and Trauma Victims	Nigeria
Centre for Care of Victims of Torture	India
Centre for Education and Defence of Human Rights	United Republic of Tanzania
Centre for Legal and Social Studies	Argentina
Centre for Rehabilitation War and Torture	Sweden
Centre for the Rehabilitation of Torture Survivors	Bangladesh
Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation	South Africa
Centre for the Treatment of Torture Victims	Germany
Centre for the Treatment of Torture Victims — Ulm	Germany
Centre for Torture Victims	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Centre for Victims of Political Persecutions	Poland
Centre médico-psychosocial pour réfugiés et victims de la torture	Belgium
Centre Primo Levi	France
Centro Alternativas	Chile
Centro de Alternativas en Salud Mental	Paraguay
Centro de Estudios Fronterizos y de Promoción de los Derechos Humanos	Mexico
Centro de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos	Chile
Centro por la Justicia y el Derecho Internacional	United States
Coalition des centres pour les victimes de la torture en Europe latine	France
Coalition of Survivors of Torture	United States
Comisión de Derechos Humanos	Peru
Comisión de Derechos Humanos de El Salvador	El Salvador

Organization	*Place*
Comité médical pour les exilés	France
Comité para la Defensa de la Salud, la Ética Profesional y los Derechos Humanos	Argentina
Concerned Christian Community	Liberia
Consulting Centre for Constitutional Rights and Justice	Nigeria
Coordinadora Nacional	Peru
Cordelia Foundation for the Rehabilitation of Victims of Organized Violence	Hungary
Corporación de Promoción y Defensa de los Derechos del Pueblo	Chile
Croix-Rouge suisse	Switzerland
Doctors of the World	United States
Edmonton Centre for Survivors of Torture and Trauma	Canada
Equipo Argentino de Trabajo y Investigación Psicosocial	Argentina
Estonian Centre of Medical Rehabilitation for Victims of Torture	Estonia
Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearances	Philippines
Family Rehabilitation Centre	Sri Lanka
Fédération internationale des droits de l'homme	France
Fondation Idole	Cameroon
Forum des activistes contre la torture	Rwanda
Fund Against Violation of Law	Armenia
Fundació Concepció Juvanteny	Spain
Fundación de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas	Chile
Fundación Ecuménica para el Desarrollo y la Paz	Peru
Fundación Social Colombiana	Colombia
Gaza Community Mental Health Programme	Gaza
Gender Equity Unit	South Africa
Geneva Initiative on Psychiatry	Netherlands
Guatemala Human Rights Commission/USA	United States

Organization	*Place*
Gulf Coast Community Care	United States
Health Care Centre	Austria
HEMAYAT	Austria
HMD Response	United Kingdom
Home for Human Rights	Sri Lanka
Human Rights Foundation of Turkey	Turkey
Human Rights Initiative of North Texas	United States
Human Rights Society, Nizhny Novgorod	Russian Federation
ICAR Foundation (Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture)	Romania
Independent Medico-Legal Unit	Kenya
Instituto de Terapia e Investigación de la Secuelas de la Tortura y de la Violencia Estatal	Bolivia
International Institute of Boston	United States
International Institute of New Jersey	United States
International Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims	Denmark
International Society for Health and Human Rights	Norway
Italian Refugee Council	Italy
Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights	United Kingdom
KANYARWANDA	Rwanda
Khiam Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture	Lebanon
Khmer Health Advocates	United States
Khulumani Support Group	South Africa
Kurdish Human Rights Project	United Kingdom
La voix des sans voix	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Lahore Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Survivors	Pakistan
Latvia Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims and their Families	Latvia
Liga Moçambicana dos Direitos Humanos	Mozambique

Organization	*Place*
Ligue togolaise des droits de l'homme	Togo
Macedonian Centre for Mental Health	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Marjorie Kovler Center for the Treatment of Survivors of Torture	United States
Medical Action Group	Philippines
Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture	Uganda
Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture	United Kingdom
Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims	Greece
Medical Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture	Republic of Moldova
Medici contro la tortura	Italy
Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights	United States
Muslim Women's Aid	United Kingdom
Mwatikho Torture Survivors Organization	Kenya
National Institute for Crime Prevention and Reintegration of Offenders	South Africa
National Peace Accord Trust	South Africa
Niger Delta Environment and Relief Foundation	Nigeria
Oeuvres sociales pour le développement	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Organization of Health and Human Rights Promoters	Sierra Leone
Organization of Parents and Family Members of the Disappeared	Sri Lanka
OSIRIS	France
Ottawa — Carlton Immigrant Services Organization	Canada
Penal Reform International	United Kingdom
Physicians for Human Rights	United Kingdom
Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund	United Kingdom
Prisoners Rehabilitation and Welfare Action	Nigeria
Program for Torture Victims	United States
Proyecto Adelante	United States

Organization	*Place*
Public Committee Against Torture in Israel	Israel
Red de Apoyo por la Justicia y de la Paz	Venezuela
Redress Trust	United Kingdom
Refugee, Inc.	United States
Refugio — Bremen	Germany
Refugio — Munich	Germany
Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims	Denmark
Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims	Croatia
Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture	Turkey
Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture in Ethiopia	Ethiopia
Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Totalitarianism	Republic of Moldova
Research and Support Centre for Victims of Maltreatment and Social Exclusion	Greece
Réseau d'intervention auprès des personnes ayant subi la violence organisée	Canada
Réseau Sud pour la défense des droits humains	Haiti
Restart Centre	Lebanon
Rocky Mountain Survivors Center	United States
Romanian Independent Society for Human Rights	Romania
Rwanda Women Community Development Network	Rwanda
Safe Horizon	United States
Santé formation travail	Haiti
Slovenska Filantropija	Slovenia
Social Rehabilitation Service	Uruguay
Society for Social Research Art and Culture	India
Solidarité pour la promotion sociale et la paix	Democratic Republic of the Congo
South African Prisoners' Organization for Human Rights	South Africa
Southern Africa Trauma Centre	South Africa
St. Petersburg Centre	Russian Federation

Organization	*Place*
Struggle for Change (Rehabilitation Centre for Victims of Torture)	Pakistan
Sudanese Victims of Torture Group	United Kingdom
Survivors International — San Francisco	United States
Survivors of Torture, International — San Diego	United States
Swedish Red Cross — Dalarna	Sweden
Swedish Red Cross — Malmö	Sweden
Swedish Red Cross — Stockholm	Sweden
Swedish Red Cross — Uppsala	Sweden
The Trauma Centre	South Africa
Tortura Nunca Mas	Brazil
Trauma Centre in Yaoundé	Cameroon
Treatment and Rehabilitation Unit for Survivors of Torture and Trauma	Australia
Treatment Rehabilitation Centre	Ramallah
Unité de médecine des voyages et des migrations	Switzerland
Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture	Canada
Vasavya Mahila Mandali	India
VIVRE	Senegal
Voice Against Torture	Pakistan
Women's Aid Collective	Nigeria
World Organization against Torture	Switzerland
XENION	Germany
Yosua Prison Ministry	Indonesia
Zentrum zur sozialmedizinischen, rechtlichen und kulturellen Betreuung von Ausländern in Österreich	Austria

[a] The Fund also financed two other humanitarian organizations providing medical, psychological, social or legal assistance or training for professionals working with torture victims.

Annex II

Joint Declaration for the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, 26 June 2001

The Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture ("the Fund"), the Committee against Torture, the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

Recalling the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997, to declare 26 June the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, recognizing the need to provide assistance to the victims of torture in a purely humanitarian spirit, established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to receive voluntary contributions for distribution to victims of torture and their relatives and appealed to all Governments to contribute to the Fund,

Observing that the requests to the Fund for remedy and assistance to victims of torture and their families are ever increasing,

Regretting that torture, an international crime, is still practised by Governments and by other entities exercising effective power,

Reaffirming with dismay that, as affirmed by the Secretary-General, torture is one of the vilest acts to be perpetrated by human beings upon each other,

Exhorting all Governments to eradicate torture and bring to justice torturers everywhere and reminding everyone that ending torture marks a beginning of true respect for the most basic of all human rights: the intrinsic dignity and value of each individual,

Conscious of the need to emphasize the prevention of torture, as recommended by the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993,

Recognizing that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance create conditions conducive to torture and have been used to justify torture throughout history,

Noting that the World Conference scheduled to convene in Durban, South Africa, in September 2001 will examine racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Stressing that article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment includes under the definition of torture any act by which severe pain or suffering is inflicted for any reason based on discrimination of any kind,

Recalling that the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture has noted that ethnic difference may contribute to the process of dehumanization of the victim, which is often a necessary condition for torture and ill-treatment to take place,

Emphasizing that the Committee against Torture has observed, with regret, that discrimination of any kind can create a climate in which torture or ill-treatment of

"other" groups can more easily be accepted and that discrimination undercuts the realization of equality of all persons before the law,

Acknowledging and commending the valuable and ongoing work of many Governments, associations, non-governmental groups and individuals in combating all forms of torture,

Paying tribute to those, particularly in non-governmental organizations, who work selflessly to relieve the suffering and assist the recovery of torture victims worldwide, and seek redress for them,

1. *Strongly appeal* on 26 June 2001, on the occasion of the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture:

(a) To all Governments and other entities exercising effective power:

(i) To call an immediate halt to the practice of torture;

(ii) To sanction as soon as possible all persons who have ordered, acquiesced in or practised torture;

(iii) To take all appropriate measures necessary for the prevention of torture within the territory under their jurisdiction or control;

(b) To all Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individuals:

(i) To provide as much support as possible to the victims of torture and their families;

(ii) To cooperate, in order to prevent torture, for the establishment of an international mechanism of visits to places of detention by adopting as soon as possible an optional protocol to the Convention against Torture;

2. *Assure* all donors to the Fund:

(i) That their contributions are duly and equitably distributed to organizations in the five continents and effectively utilized to provide medical, psychological, social, economic, legal, humanitarian and other forms of assistance to the victims of torture and their families;

(ii) That their contributions are highly appreciated not only by the victims of torture and their families themselves but also by human rights defenders and organizations;

3. *Strongly appeal* to all donors to the Fund to continue and, if possible, increase their generous contributions to the Fund, preferably on an annual basis;

4. *Urge* the universal ratification, by the year 2005, of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols and of the Convention against Torture, including acceptance of the procedures provided for in articles 21 and 22;

5. *Appeal* to all States to keep constantly in mind that the eradication of torture requires not only ratification of the above treaties, but also their effective implementation;

6. *Encourage* renewed educational efforts to prevent torture, including those addressing eradication of torture based upon discrimination of any kind;

7. *Call upon* all Governments and individuals to assess the way in which courts, ombudspersons, national human rights commissions or related bodies address the element of discrimination when examining allegations of torture or ill-treatment, in order to improve the effectiveness of these mechanisms in enabling individuals to raise concerns about any such allegations based on discrimination or unequal access to justice;

8. *Recall* that an essential element in eradicating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance is overcoming impunity and bringing to justice those responsible for acts of torture or ill-treatment, whether committed against a single individual or segments of the population;

9. *Urge* all States to provide in their domestic law for fair and adequate reparation, including compensation and rehabilitation of the victims of torture;

10. *Urge* all participants at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance in Durban to work together against torture, paying due attention to the relationship between discrimination and the practice of torture, and the need to eradicate any such practice as a vital part of the effort to provide remedies to the victims of torture;

11. *Call upon* the United Nations Secretariat to transmit this Joint Declaration to all Governments and give it the widest possible distribution;

12. *Appeal* to the communications media:

(a) To give as wide publicity as possible to this Joint Declaration on 26 June 2001;

(b) To enlighten both Governments and peoples about the current situation concerning torture by reporting consistently on that subject.